

**Response/Arguments**

**A. Claims In The Case**

Claims 1 – 12 are rejected. Claims 1 – 12 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 13 – 24 are added. Claims 13 – 23 are pending in the case.

**B. The Claims Are Not Indefinite**

The Examiner rejected claims 1 – 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner states that the use of the language “or the like” and/or “of the type” renders claim 1 indefinite because the claim includes elements not actually disclosed.

The Examiner states that the use of the language “such as” and/or “so that” renders claims 3 and 8 indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 – 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the necessary structural connections.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1 – 12 without prejudice. Applicant has added new claims 13 – 24. Applicant asserts that the newly added claims are supported by the specification. Applicant states that claims 13 – 24 are definite pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and respectfully requests the withdrawal of all rejections and/or objections to the claims on these

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Appl. Ser. No.: 09/992,583  
Att. Dckt. No.: 5310-03700

grounds.

**C. Prior Art Rejections**

The Examiner has not rejected any claims against any cited prior art due to the objection and/or 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejections against claims 1 – 12.

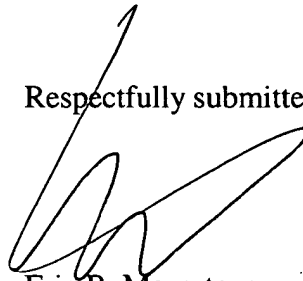
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**Summary**

Based on the above, Applicant submits that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited.

Applicant hereby requests a two-month extension of time for this response. Applicant has enclosed a Fee Authorization in the amount of \$420.00. Should any additional fees be required or if any fees have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account Number 50-1505/5310-03700/EBM

Respectfully submitted,



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